



SPRING HILL MESSENGER MARCH 2024

Dear SHPC Friends,

Lent is in full swing here at SHPC. It might seem strange to some, but I love the season of Lent in the church. Lent is an opportunity to draw closer to God and to examine our spiritual practices. Lent is a season of wilderness. Our faith affirms that much of life is wilderness wanderings. We go to the wilderness to be tested. We go to the wilderness to learn more about ourselves and about God. We go to the wilderness and see with greater clarity the provision and presence of God. We go to the wilderness to learn to live in freedom after generations of bondage. A few weeks ago, Eugenia Gamble preached on Mark's version of Jesus entering the wilderness. Right before, Jesus is baptized in the Jordan river. We do not go into the wilderness alone. We go with God's blessing and commissioning, remembering our baptism—"You are my child, my beloved, with you I am well-pleased." Christ does not go into the wilderness to be punished. Christ goes with God's love and claiming presence.

March 10 is Youth Sunday in Sunday morning worship. Our youth have been studying the story of Paul and Silas' imprisonment. The afternoon of **March 10, we will have a baptism and an opportunity to remember your own baptism!** Sydney McGough will be baptized at Dauphin Island. Because of this baptism, we have an opportunity to remember our Presbyterian theology. As Presbyterians, we believe you only need to be baptized once. If you are baptized using the "Trinitarian formula"—in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your baptism counts. Water may be poured (or sprinkled) on your head or you may be fully immersed. You may be baptized as a baby, or you can be baptized as an adult. Theologically, we believe that even before we can utter a word, God chooses us. The sacrament of baptism is about what God is doing and has done in our lives—Christ's claim on us. In the waters of baptism, God tells each of us, "You are my child, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Sydney has not been baptized before and would like to be fully immersed, so we are going to do that. I have life-guarded a Baptism at a Presbyterian camp, but I have never had the opportunity to baptize someone in an open body of water. I am excited that we get to exercise our Presbyterian theology and remember God's calling to the water.

Sunday, March 17 we will have our **annual Easter Egg Hunt at 5:00 pm** following Children's Choirs. The entire community is invited, so invite your neighbors and friends. We will have hotdogs and lemonade too. **Thursday, March 21** the **Birmingham Southern College Choir** will have a concert here at SHPC.

The final week of March is Holy Week. The first Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services I ever attended took place the year I was confirmed in the church in the seventh grade. I remember it vividly because to me it felt like the first time I experienced the entire story of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. Before that I had participated in Palm Sunday and Easter. While I knew the story of Christ's final supper, arrest, suffering, and death, there's something so powerful about walking through it in worship together. The Sacrament of Communion takes on such power as we tell the story of Christ sitting and eating with his disciples for the final time. If you have never been to one of these services before or if you come every year, I hope you will join us. Our **Maundy Thursday service will be March 28 at 6:00 pm in the Chapel** with Rev. Bob Madsen preaching. Our **Good Friday service will be March 29 at noon in the Chapel**, and we will continue the tradition of reading through one of the Gospel's Good Friday accounts and praying together. **Sunday, March 31** our **worship continues on Easter morning at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.**

I am grateful that we walk together in the wilderness, and we walk together towards the cross. We do not go alone.

Grace and Peace,
Anna

Lent:2024

at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church

"A Season of Reflection and Repentance"

Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.

- February 18: "Where Angels and Demons Live," Rev. Eugenia Gamble
- February 25: "Take Up Your Cross," Dr. Anna Fulmer Duke
- March 3: "When God is Fierce," Eugenia Gamble
- March 10: "Singing in Shackles," Youth Sunday (worship led by youth)
- March 17: "The Kind of Death He was to Die," Dr. Anna Fulmer Duke

Wednesday Lenten Services

"Forgive Us Our Debts"

- February 14: Ash Wednesday Service
- February 21: Jubilee with Dale Hair
- February 28: Forgiveness and Healing
- March 6: Forgiveness and Pilgrimage
- March 13: Forgive Us Our Debts with Bill Oppenheimer
- March 20: Forgiveness and Welcome with Cindy Wilson

These Wednesday noon services in the Chapel will use liturgy from the Iona Community. Each service lasts 30-45 minutes and includes Communion. This year, we will explore the theme of forgiveness. The offering for these Wednesday services will go to abolish medical debt in our state through RIP Medical Debt.

Afterwards, join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

HOLY WEEK



- Sunday, March 24: Palm Sunday with Rev. Eugenia Gamble at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary
- Thursday, March 28: Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 6:00 pm with Rev. Bob Madsen in the Chapel
- March 29: Good Friday Service at Noon with Dr. Anna Fulmer Duke in the Chapel
- Sunday, March 31: Easter, "Seized and Silent in the Face of Resurrection" Dr. Anna Fulmer Duke at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary

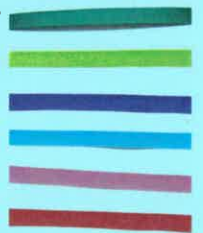


Lenten Lunches! The Fellowship Committee invites you to come have a light lunch in Fellowship Hall after each of the Lenten services. A signup sheet will be in the hall for your convenience. A suggested donation of \$5.00 will be appreciated.



Lenten Prayer Tree

This year, we will again have the Lenten prayer tree located outside the sanctuary, available anytime during Lent. Ribbons will be available in the hallway and the Narthex, but you can bring your own ribbon, string, or thread to tie on a branch and we'll all watch it blossom by Easter.



Nominating Committee 2024

Mark Scott - Chair - Elder

Lynn Hennig - P W Representative

Vera Lynn Sheets - Choir Representative

Stephanie Jacobs - At Large

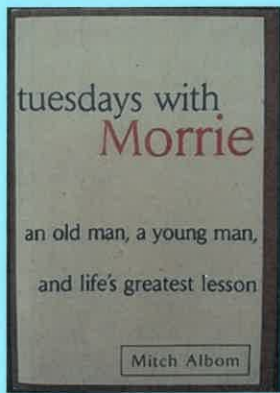
Clark Powell - Youth Representative

Jodi Morvant - Elder Representative

Michael Olivera - Deacon Representative

Cindy Campbell - Deacon Representative

* To recommend candidates for Elders & Deacons, complete a form in the hallway or contact one of the committee members.



March Book Club

Book Club for *Tuesdays with Morrie* will convene in Fellowship Hall on March 10, 17, and 24 from 9:00-10:00 during Sunday School hour. You can check out this book from your local library, or purchase a paperback copy online. It is a short book. Reading assignments for discussion will be announced weekly. This is a perfect book for Lenten reading – a warm and tender story of friendship and discovery.

March 10, Book Club: Read pages 1-68 in *Tuesdays with Morrie*. This will include background information on the author (Mitch Albom) and how the series of meetings between Mitch and his former professor, Morrie Schwartz, began.

March 17, Book Club: Read pages 69-141 in *Tuesdays with Morrie*. The mid-section of the book deals with much of the “meat” of their conversation on six topics and marks a change in their relationship.

March 24, Book Club: Read pages 142-206 in *Tuesdays with Morrie*. The last section of the book offers the final conversations between Mitch and his former professor, leading up to their tender good-bye and a reflective Afterward added to the book by Mitch in honor of the 25th anniversary of the original printing of the book.

Bible Discovery

Join us during March at 9:15 in the Conference Room as we journey with Jesus to the cross through readings from Mark, Luke and John.

Conversations with Scriptures

March 10: Join us for our series "Practice Spiritual Discipline" as we discuss unplugging the modern word with verses from the Old and New Testament. We meet in the Parlor.

March 17: Join us for our series "Practice Spiritual Discipline" as we discuss trying different practices during the Lenten season. We meet in the Parlor.

March 24: Join us for our series "Celebrate Communion" as we discuss giving thanks with verses from the Books of Matthew and Thessalonians. We meet in the Parlor.

Statement as of January 31, 2024

Total Annual Budgeted Rev-	\$	784,994
Year-to-date Received	\$	119,013
Other Receipts	\$	2,867
Total Receipts	\$	121,880
Benevolences	\$	2,500
Salaries and Services	\$	37,918
Programs	\$	2,227
Office Expenses	\$	3,414
General and Plant Services	\$	11,634
Other	\$	4,280
Total Expenses	\$	61,972
Excess Receipts over	\$	59,908

Thank you to all who tear off cancelled stamps (leaving a 1/4" border) from their envelopes and deposit them in the stamp box in the Mission



room. You join others nation-wide who do the same & send the stamps onward to a clearing house in Tampa. From there the stamps are sorted & bagged and sold to stamp brokers in Asia. Monies collected from those sales are sent to a Christian-based publishing house in South America which prints Sunday School lesson plans in Spanish. Even though postal mail is decreasing in volume, overall participation in 2023 permitted an amount of \$35,000 to go forward to the publishing house to spread the Word of Jesus. -Janie Sims



WE REJOICE with Bailey Magee Cashia and Bryant Cashia on the birth of their son Benjamin Bryant Cashia on February 17, in Nashville Tn. Ann Magee in his grandmother.

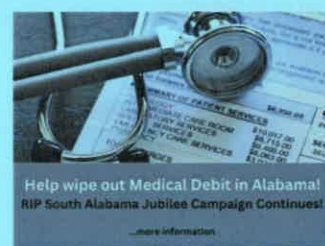
Youth Calendar

Date	Youth Sunday School (in Bullard at 9:00 am)	Confirmation at 9:00 am in Confirmation Room	Youth Choirs, Alphabet Generations, and Youth Group
Mar. 3	Exo. 20:1-17	What do you Wonder? Interview/Paper 3 Due	Choirs & Alphabet Generations at 5:00 pm, and Dinner at 6:00 pm Mandatory Dress Rehearsal
Mar. 10	Eph. 2:1-10	March 8: Confirmation Retreat Youth Sunday (Practice During Sunday School—Meet in Sanctuary)	Youth Sunday; no Youth Group, Choir, or Alphabet Generations. Sydney McGough's Baptism at 3:00 pm
Mar 17	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Will you devote yourself to the church's fellowship?	Choirs at 4:00 pm (Alphabet Generations and others help set-up EE Hunt) Easter Egg Hunt at 5:00 pm
Mar 24	Mark 11:1-11; 15:1-39	Will you devote yourself to the Breaking of Bread?	Choirs & Alphabet Generations at 5:00 pm, 6:00 pm Easter Party
Mar 31	Easter: No Youth Sunday School	Easter Sunday (No Class)	Easter: No Evening Activities

Vespers Service and Baptism, Sunday, March 10: The congregation is invited for a Vespers service, Sunday, March 10 at 3:00 pm on Dauphin Island. We will meet at the home of Mary Anne and Larry Brown (2328 Bienville Blvd). From their home, we will walk to the water. Sydney McGough will be baptized. As Presbyterians, you can have water poured (or sprinkled) on your head or fully immersed. Sydney will be immersed! Baptism is always a public act of worship, so we hope everyone will come. Carpooling is recommended. There is no street parking on Bienville Blvd. Please park behind the house on Island Shores Drive. In the event of inclement weather, this service will be rescheduled for Sunday, April 7.

SPECIAL OFFERING

RIP Medical Debt special offering continues until March 31. This organization helps those burdened with uncollectible medical debt to receive debt forgiveness. \$1 donation = \$100 of debt relief. Donate directly online at www.ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/south-alabama/, or by check payable to the church with RIP Medical Debt on the subject line. Cash donations can be given during Wednesday Lenten services.



Religious Arts

Art in the Library – for March and April the artists from the Tuesday Painting Pals will display recent works. In May and June, The Art for All group will display their talents and there will be a Sunday afternoon reception.

Fairhope Arts and Crafts festival is March 15 – 17. Patrick Jacobs will lead the Coastal Sound group in a performance on March 15 at 11 am. We will go as a group leaving the church at 9:00 to hear them sing, see some art, and have lunch in Fairhope that day. Sign-up sheets will be in the hall.

Mobile Opera & Symphony: There will be groups leaving our parking lot for the Mobile Opera (Rigoletto) on March 24 and the Mobile Symphony (Mozart Requiem) on April 7. Buy your tickets and sign up in the hall if you want to join the group. (Lunch arrangements will be included). Call Bonney with any questions 251-680-2060.

MEMORIALS

Edith Cox Linda Langston

Prayer Shawl Recipients

Lynn & Jerry Hennig
Bruce & Sylvia Weinard
Prayer Shawl Knitters



THE PRAYERS AND THE SYMPATHY of the congregation are with Charles Hall upon the death of his wife, Rita Hall on February 21, 2024.

Prayer List

Jim Adams, Coco Anderson, Barbara Beach, Cammie Belue, Lanier Cauley, Janet Clarke, Deneen Massa Cook, Sherry Coats, Sallie Connell, Jamie Crawford, Rhen Druhan, Chrisy Ennen, Ruth Fitzgerald, Mary Lee Franks, Dean Graves, Gwen Greer, Charles Hal l, Ann Hafner, Bill Harris, Lauren Henson, Bill Layfield, Celia Ledbetter, Steve Ledbetter, Paula Letterman, Kay Korb, Jacque Marrero, Lynn Martin, Margaret Miller, Betty Minto, Mary Owen, Janie Sims, Margie Spaulding, Pat Stoll, Carol Sumrall, Gayle Underwood, J.P. Van Hook, Johnny Walton, Babs Warren, Ann Wilson, Andy Wharton, Ronnie Wright and all our military members: Ashton Rubio, Stuart Rubio.

Confirmation Sunday April 28

**Vacation Bible
School**
is scheduled for
**June 17 through
20th.**



LILIES will be a part of the sanctuary decorations for worship Easter Sunday, March 31. The plants will be taken to home-bound members by the Congregational Care Committee in the name of the church following worship. Cost: \$20.00. Please call or email marcia@springhillpresbyterian.org if you wish to place a memorial for a loved one or by helping to decorate the sanctuary.

Deadline is March 18.



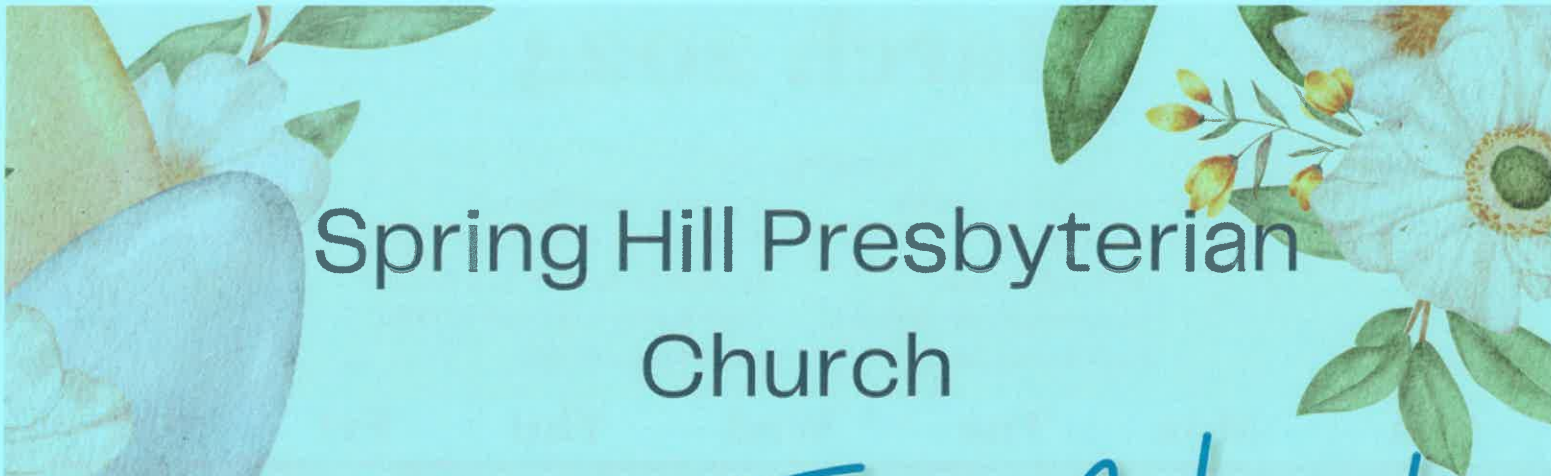
THE RELIGIOUS ARTS COMMITTEE PRESENTS

Birmingham-Southern College Concert Choir

Dr. Lester Seigel, conductor
Thursday, March 21, 2024 | 7 PM
SPRING HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



10 WESTMINSTER WAY | MOBILE, AL 36608 | 251-342-1550



Spring Hill Presbyterian
Church

Easter Egg Hunt

SUNDAY

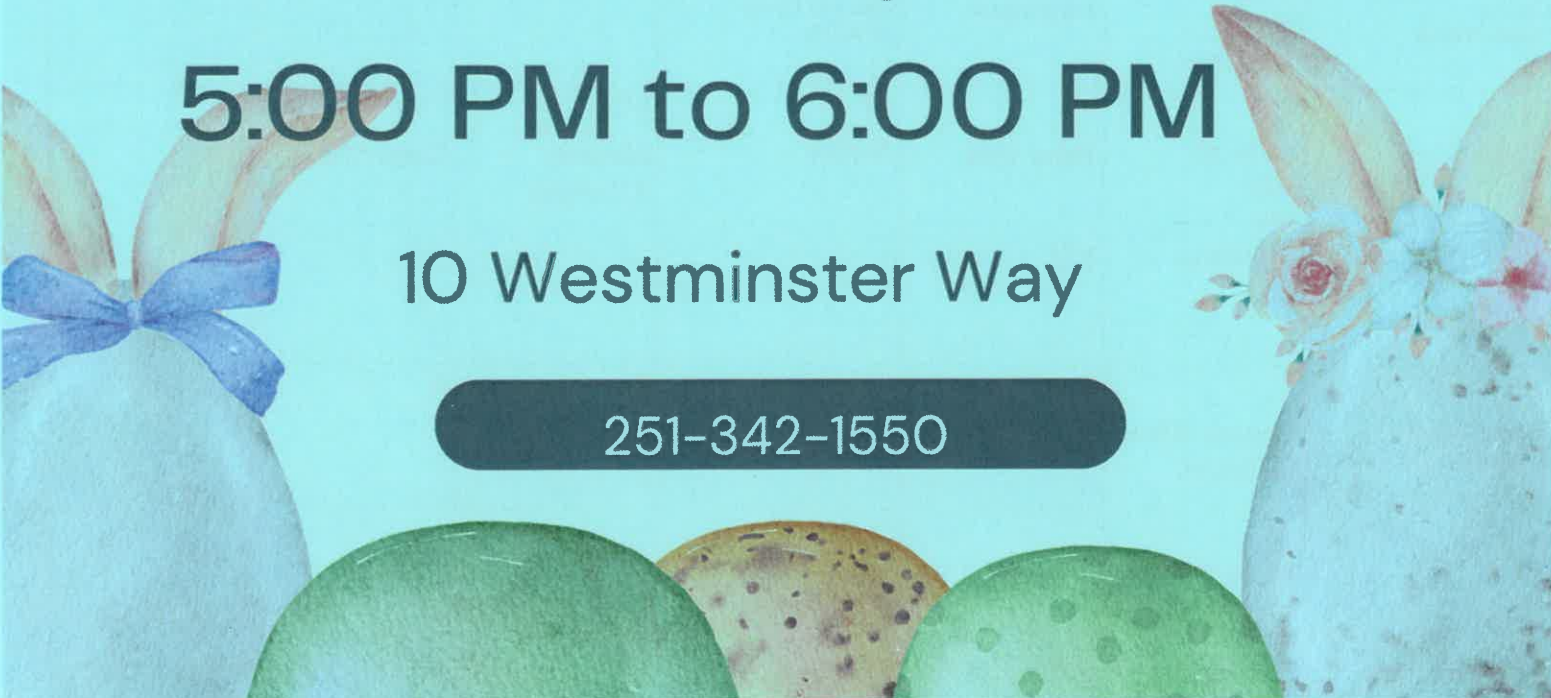
MARCH 17, 2024

Lemonade and Hotdogs will be served.

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

10 Westminster Way

251-342-1550



March 2024

Sunday Activities

Sunday Schools are at 9:00 AM Children's Sunday School
 Current Events Worship starts at 10:30 AM
 Confirmation Class Alphabet Generations 5:00 Pm
 Conversations with Scripture Youth & Children's Choirs 5:00 PM
 Youth Sunday School Youth Group 6:00 PM

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2 AA
3 Sunday Schools Worship Children & Youth Choirs Youth Group	4 Art for All Outreach MSC PNC Boy Scouts	5 Paint Pals Committees MSC	6 PWCT Childrens Chapel Lenten Service Lenten Lunch Spring Hill Ringers Chancel Choir Al-Anon	7	8	9 AA Presbytery Meeting
10 Sunday Schools Worship -Youth Sun- day Vespers Service	11 Art for All MSC PNC Boy Scouts	12 Paint Pals MSC	13 Day Circle Childrens Chapel Lenten Service Lenten Lunch Night Circle Spring Hill Ringers Chancel Choir Al-Anon	14	15 Fairhope Arts & Crafts with Religious Arts	16 AA
17 Sunday Schools Worship Easter Egg Hunt Children & Youth Choirs Youth Group	18 <u>Newsletter Deadline</u> Art for All MSC PNC Boy Scouts	19 Paint Pals MSC Session Diaconate	20 Childrens Chapel Lenten Service Lenten Lunch Congregational Care Spring Hill Ringers Chancel Choir Al-Anon	21 Birmingham College Concert Choir	22	23 AA Mary B. Austin Clean-up
24 Sunday Schools Worship- Palm Sun- day - Communion Children & Youth Choirs Youth Group Mobile Opera	25 Art for All MSC PNC Boy Scouts	26 Paint Pals MSC	27 Al-Anon	28 Maundy Thursday	29 Good Friday	30 AA
31 Sunday Schools Worship Easter	1 Church office is Closed Boy Scouts	2	3	4	5	6